AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend paragraph **[0002]**on page 1 as follows:

[0002] The present invention relates to ~~novel~~ antianemia ingredients extracted from traditional Chinese herbal medicine Trichosanthes, which comprise a single compound with the activity of increasing globin gene expression. This invention also relates to methods of preparing the ingredients and purifying the compound, and uses thereof.

Please amend paragraph **[0020]**on page 6 as follows:

[0020] Although these efforts lead ~~novel~~ advances in developing new drugs for the treatment of hemoglobinopathies, most of them are still under further investigation, as still far from practical use. It is apparent that the present treatment of the sickle cell anemia and β-thalassemia is not ideal. Limited effectiveness, risks, expenses, and difficulties in compliance characterize most of the therapies currently available. Accordingly, it is urgent to develop alternatives having advantages over the prior art, and avoiding the disadvantages of those disclosed in the prior art, while providing effective therapy for those target diseases.

Please amend paragraph **[0059]**on page 12 as follows:

[0059] This invention provides the ~~novel~~ discovery that *Trichosanthes,* and/or extracts derived thereof, and/or ingredients isolated thereof, and/or compound(s) purified thereof, can positively regulate globin genes expression, and induce the augmentation of adult and fetal hemoglobin level in both human erythroleukemia cell line and normal human hematopoietic progenitor cells.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-71. (Cancelled).

72. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an extract from ~~*Trichosanthes kirilowii Maxim,*~~ *Trichosanthes rosthornii Harms* or *Trichosanthes japonica Regal*, wherein said extract induces hemoglobin synthesis in human K562 cells and said extract is prepared by a method comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting ~~*Trichosanthes kirilowii Maxim,*~~ *Trichosanthes rosthornii Harms* or *Trichosanthes japonica Regal* with a first solvent consisting of an aqueous solution of from 50% to 70% ethanol to form a mixture;

(b) heating the mixture to form a liquor; and

(c) concentrating the liquor to form a first syrup.

73. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 72, wherein said method further comprises the step of:

(d) extracting the first syrup with a second solvent having a polarity index less than that of the first solvent to form a second syrup.

74. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 73, wherein said method further comprises the step of:

(e) purifying the second syrup to obtain a compound.

75. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition of any one of claims 72-74, wherein the extract exhibits a major peak with a retention time of 7.935 min when analyzed by high performance liquid chromatography using a 4.6x 250mm C4 column, a mobile phase with 75% water and 25% acetonitrile/0.1% trifluoroacetic acid, at a flow rate of 2.0 ml/min.

76. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of any one of claims 72-74, wherein the extract is prepared from the roots, stems, leaves, flowers, fruits, or seeds of